

I have been a Girl Scout for 11 years. In Girl Scouts, we promise,
 "On my honor, I will try:
 To serve God and my country,
 To help people at all times,
 And to live by the Girl Scout Law."

A large part of being a Girl Scout is trying to help other people by following our promise and law. I have held true to my promise by giving my time and talents for the betterment of my community and church. By investing my time in community service and church activities, I am not only bettering my community, but I am also setting a positive example for others.

I strongly believe that the best leadership is leadership by example. The impact of one individual who sets a good example is amazing. It is important to me that I do what I can to better myself and the world around me by making positive choices. One person who develops a strong set of values and upholds themselves to high moral standards can make a positive influence on the lives of others. The power of a single individual who tries to be the best person he or she possibly can as they put their talents to work for the betterment of themselves, their work, and others is very impressive. By making positive choices in my own life, I am serving as a role-model for everyone around me. My service to America is setting a good example for others in the choices that I have made and the choices I will make in the future.

I am working towards the ultimate goal of being all that I can be by working hard towards my goals, showing respect towards others, and abstaining from destructive behaviors. These choices, among others, are permitting me to work towards becoming all that I can be.

I have challenged myself to be all that I can be. My service to America is not one of enlistment in the armed forces, but one that I hope will be beneficial to myself, my community, and this great nation.

FEDERAL JUDGES FOR FLORIDA ACT

HON. BILL McCOLLUM

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 1999

Mr. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the Federal Judges for Florida Act that will provide seven additional federal district court judgeships in Florida.

The Federal Judges for Florida Act will provide five new judgeships in the Middle District of Florida and two new judgeships in the Southern District of Florida. These new judgeships are based on the recommendations of the Judicial Conference of the United States. Although the Judicial Conference has repeatedly recommended additional federal district judgeships for Florida, a new federal judgeship has not been created in the state since 1990.

The Middle District stretches 400 miles from Jacksonville to Naples and is broken up into five divisions: Jacksonville, Ocala, Orlando, Tampa and Ft. Myers. It encompasses three major metropolitan areas and 35 counties. The Southern District of Florida includes Ft. Lauderdale and Miami. These two federal judicial districts cover about 80 percent of the state population. The population of Florida is expected to continue to increase at a rapid pace, with over 20 million residents projected in 2025. Since 1990, the Florida population has grown by over 15 percent.

Mr. Speaker, the need for additional federal district judgeships in Florida is reaching a crisis point. For example, the Middle District of Florida has one of the heaviest caseloads per judge in the nation—ranking in the top ten for civil filings, drug cases, pending cases and total case filings.

The Middle District as well as the Southern District both have High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas. Almost half of the criminal caseload in the Middle District is drug-related—reflecting the use of Florida as a conduit in drug trafficking and vigorous law enforcement efforts to combat it. The Middle District has been 50 percent higher in the number of criminal defendants per judge than the national average. The Southern District has conducted more criminal trials and had more criminal cases pending than most other district courts.

Our Federal District Courts are crucial in the fight against drug trafficking, terrorism, organized crime and fraud—we cannot allow them to operate at a disadvantage. We must respond to the crises facing the federal district courts and fulfill our congressional responsibility. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

DECLARATION OF POLICY OF THE UNITED STATES CONCERNING NATIONAL MISSILE DEFENSE DEPLOYMENT

SPEECH OF

HON. DEBBIE STABENOW

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 18, 1999

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to discuss my support of H.R. 4, the Missile Defense bill. H.R. 4, declares that it is the policy of the United States to deploy a national missile defense system. The importance of this legislation can be found in its absence to declare the type of system to be created, the date of deployment and the location of the eventual system.

I believe that it would be dangerous to rush into deployment of a National Missile Defense (NMD) system without the development of appropriate technology. We must not stake America's national security on a system which has failed 14 out of 18 tests. This legislation does not mandate a date of deployment, which allows technology to advance so that when a successful NMD system is developed it can be deployed.

Additionally, I feel that compliance with the Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty and Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (START) II are far more important in our near future than deploying a limited national missile defense. And H.R. 4, does not threaten U.S. compliance by mandating the type of system or the number of interceptors necessary. I believe it is possible for a national missile defense system to complement deterrence, but only through compliance with the treaties already in place.

I am disappointed that the rule prohibited an amendment by my colleague Mr. ALLEN, which would have specifically addressed the issues of effectiveness and treaty compliance when deploying a NMD system. For this reason, I will oppose the rule and support a motion to recommit the bill with instructions to include this amendment. While I believe Mr. ALLEN's

amendment would have been a positive addition to this legislation, I do not feel it is necessary for my support. H.R. 4, by remaining silent on how, when, and where a NMD system will develop allows the Administration to negotiate our compliance with our treaties and for technology to advance so that an effective missile defense system can be deployed.

TRIBUTE TO EVELYN AND ALBERT DEDENBACH

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 1999

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to have the opportunity to recognize the achievements of a very special couple, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Dedenbach. This evening, April 14th, they are being honored as two of the Clinton Township Goodfellows of the Year recipients for 1997–1998 by community members and friends.

The members of the Clinton Township Goodfellows have contributed their time and resources to the betterment of the community for many years. Their goal is to aid the public in ways that other charities and the government could not. For the past nine years, the Goodfellows knew that they could count on Al and Evelyn to be there volunteering their time and talents to achieve these goals.

The Dedenbachs have been married for 58 years and have four children and six grandchildren. Al served in the Air Force during WWII and when the war ended, began working in the engineering field while Evelyn was busy taking care of a growing family. Volunteering is second nature to Evelyn. She has served in the local schools as a library lunch aide, read to the kindergarten children and was active with the Girl Scouts organization. When Al retired in 1981, they joined the senior group in Clinton Township and enjoy sharing many social activities together.

One of their greatest joys is working and helping the Goodfellows with charitable projects. Al and Evelyn have given to their community with spirit and dedication throughout the years. I would like to congratulate Mr. and Mrs. Dedenbach as they celebrate this auspicious occasion with family and friends.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE LANCE CPL. BOBBY J. LAWRENCE

HON. DAVE CAMP

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 1999

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the heroism of a young United States Marine from my district whose selfless actions saved the life of a fellow Marine and embody the values of our U.S. Armed Forces.

Lance Cpl. Bobby J. Lawrence of Evart, Michigan, died tragically last Friday at Camp Pendleton in California.

He and Lance Cpl. James N. Jones Jr. of Pueblo, Colorado, were riding in a 12-ton truck when Lance Cpl. Lawrence realized the brakes had failed. To avoid plunging over a cliff after the emergency brakes also failed,

Lance Cpl. Lawrence jerked the steering wheel and intentionally tipped his truck. It overturned and Bobby Lawrence, a week away from his 21st birthday, was tragically killed when the truck overturned. But his passenger was saved.

Lance Cpl. Lawrence will be flown back to Evart for burial. His noble actions will not rescind his loss, nor can they ever fully alleviate the pain of the family and friends who must bury this young Marine.

Mr. Speaker, I know that each Member of the U.S. House of Representatives joins me and the residents of the 4th Congressional District in offering Lance Cpl. Lawrence's loved ones our prayers, our thoughts and our gratitude. May his soul rest in peace and may his bravery be forever remembered in the hearts of those for whom he served.

CELEBRATING THE CAREER OF
COLONEL JAMES R. PROUTY

HON. BERNARD SANDERS

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 1999

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following for the RECORD.

Colonel James R. Prouty is recognized for exceptionally distinguished service to the United States Army and to the United States of America during the period July 6, 1972 to May 31, 1999. Throughout a distinguished twenty-seven year military career, Colonel Prouty served in a series of increasingly demanding positions that immeasurably contributed to the security of the nation, culminating as the Executive Officer to the Assistant Vice Chief of Staff of the Army.

A brief summary of his accomplishments over the last decade follows.

As Commander of the 2d Battalion, 5th Air Defense Artillery (Vulcan/Stinger), 2d Armored Division, he was responsible for leading, training, maintaining, and caring for approximately 600 soldiers and their associated equipment (45 track and 175 wheeled vehicles). MG Mallory, the Division Commander, remarked that "his battalion set the training standard for the division because of Jim's leadership." When war came, that uncompromising investment in training returned valuable dividends for the 125 highly-motivated and professional soldiers he provided to Desert Shield/Desert Storm.

As Operations Officer, and later Chief of Staff, for the United States Army Space and Strategic Defense Command (USASSDC), COL Prouty was responsible for planning and resourcing all current, future, and contingency operations; determining, analyzing, and integrating requirements for Army Space Systems; and coordinating those requirements with the Army Staff, the Joint Staff, and US Space Command. Leveraging his broad warfighting talents, COL Prouty initially focused his directorate's efforts on incorporating space considerations into Army doctrine and training events. From these efforts, he developed and prioritized requirements for Army Space Systems, published in the first Army Space Modernization Plan, supporting commanders across all Battlefield Operating Systems. LTG Lionetti described him as "smart, innovative, and visionary; he made improvements of enormous significance." Later, his directorate

stood up USASSDC's Theater Missile Defense (TMD) cell, and COL Prouty became the Army's focal point for a wide variety of TMD initiatives. Once again, COL Jim Prouty was equal to the task, overseeing the integration of delivery of the TMD Force Projection Tactical Operations Center (TOC), a major new warfighting asset available to support Joint Land Force commanders worldwide. At the same time, COL Prouty was instrumental in directing the command's highly successful participation in support of the Commission on Roles and Missions.

As Commander, Test and Experimentation Command (TEXCOM) Experimentation Center, COL Prouty was responsible for conducting and supporting a wide range of independent operational tests and experiments using state-of-the-art, real time casualty assessment instrumentation, data reduction, and analysis. He was also responsible to lead, train, and care for an organic Armored/Mechanized Infantry Battalion Task Force of over 350 soldiers. As in previous assignments, his initial emphasis was on training and performing to standard. As a result, his soldiers achieved record success on the gunnery ranges, and the major weapons systems were maintained at unprecedented operational readiness rates. More importantly, every operational test and experiment was carefully planned, coordinated, and executed on time, under budget, yielding results which were both analytically sound and compelling. The highly successful operational test of the Battlefield Combat Identification System (BCIS) is a testament to COL Prouty's leadership, superb knowledge of training, and understanding of how to operationalize emerging technology. The latter months of COL Prouty's command were once again dedicated to the mission of inactivation—and taking care of troops. In recognizing the professional manner in which COL Prouty inactivated the command, MG Lehowicz remarked that "he turned in equipment and facilities (valued at over \$100M) in such an outstanding condition that it defied the imagination."

Since July 1997, COL Prouty has served as the Executive Officer to Assistant Vice Chief of Staff of the Army (AVCSA). It is in this role that COL Prouty's unique talents and abilities have had their greatest impact on the Army. While his duties are broadly defined, as in his previous assignments, it is in the details where COL Prouty has left an indelible mark on the future of our Army.

His ability to energize a diverse body of senior executives and general officers, from across the Army Staff, with widely different interests, toward a common purpose, is truly remarkable. He succeeds because he invests the time, energy, and intellect necessary to understand the most complex issues from the perspectives of all stakeholders; he possesses the wisdom, experience, and judgment to find the common ground; and he employs the finely-honed leadership skills to motivate all to positive action. These skills were particularly evident in directing the AVCSA's efforts to transition two incoming VCSAs and develop a workable strategy to fully integrate the Army's active and reserve components—later detailed in the CSA White Paper, One Team, One Fight, One Future.

Immediately upon assuming his duties, he developed the trust and confidence of every senior leader on the Army Staff, and countless

others in the department and on Capitol Hill. Through two full Planning, Programming, and Budgeting System (PPBS) cycles, and in defense of two Army budget submissions, the Chief of Staff, the Vice Chief of Staff, and/or the Assistant Vice Chief of Staff were invariably present at the decisive place and time, with the compelling argument for Army requirements and resources. These opportunities were more often than not developed behind the scenes, via a broad, but comprehensive staff effort with COL Prouty at the helm. Perhaps of even greater importance, COL Prouty's insight, instincts, and mastery of the subject matter allowed him to resolve innumerable requirements and resource issues, in a manner favorable to Army objectives, without requiring the dedicated attention of the senior leadership.

COL Jim Prouty's team-building and managerial skills have never been more fully validated. The office of the AVCSA is a model of efficiency—lean, professional, effective, and highly-credible. This success is singularly attributable to the leadership talent and managerial savvy of COL Jim Prouty. As the role of the AVCSA continued to evolve, COL Prouty ensured that the office staff remained one step ahead of the issues, and cultivated the professional working relationships necessary to ensure the role of the AVCSA on the Army Staff was well understood and fully integrated. He sets high standards in all aspects of staff performance, and inspires subordinates to achieve them. Even under the most difficult circumstances, morale was invariably high, and the staff never missed a beat.

COL Jim Prouty served with uncommon distinction in each of these critical positions during these last ten years. His outstanding performance in each position contributed extensively to the success, not just of his unit, but to the Army. The impact of COL Prouty's professionalism, selfless commitment, and accomplishments will endure well beyond his retirement. His level of responsibility, particularly in his final position, was far above that of his peers, and his performance was on a par with most of the general officers I routinely work with. Given these factors, it is most appropriate that COL Prouty's extraordinary service to the United States Army and the United States of America be recognized by the 106th Congress.

GENERAL JOHNNIE E. WILSON

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 1999

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to General Johnnie Edward Wilson, who, on April 26, is retiring from the United States Army after more than 37 years on active duty and has served this country with honor and dignity. General Wilson is an exceptional leader, a "soldier's soldier."

Having started his career as a private, he understands soldiering, leadership, and selfless service. He is known on Capitol Hill for his dedication and integrity. As the Army's senior logistician for the past 3 years, he has tackled the tough issues in technology, acquisition and logistics while consistently focused on proper care for his personnel. Thanks to